

Message Text

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OCLR, TECH, BF

SUBJECT: R/V CHAIN ACOUSTIC RESEARCH ADJACENT TO ELEUTHRA

REFS: (A) NASSAU 1502 (B) NASSAU 1511

1. IN REPLY TO REFTELS, R/V CHAIN IS A 210FT RESEARCH VESSEL WITH BEAM OF 41FT AND DRAFT OF 16FT. R/V CHAIN IS MANNED BY CREW OF 30 INCLUDING MASTER, MICHAEL PALMIERI. ALL CREW MEMBERS ARE CIVILIAN EMPLOYEES OF WOODS HOLE INSTITUTE. IN ADDITION TO THE CREW, R/V CHAIN WILL HAVE 13 TO 17 SCIENTISTS ON-BOARD. THE CHIEF SCIENTISTS WILL BE DR. ROBERT SPINDEL UNTIL 2 SEPT AND THEN DR. ROBERT PORTER. ALL ON BOARD R/V CHAIN ARE US CITIZENS.

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2. THE PURPOSE OF THE RESEARCH BEING CONDUCTED BY R/V CHAIN IS TO INVESTIGATE THE PROPAGATION OF SOUND THROUGH WATER AND TO DETERMINE THE EFFECT OF EXTERNAL FACTORS ON THE SOUND. THE EXPERIMENT WILL CONSIST OF PLACING A 220 CYCLE SOUND SOURCE ON THE BOTTOM. THE EXACT LOCATION OF THE SOURCE WILL THEN BE DETERMINED AS ACCURATELY AS POSSIBLE AND THE BOTTOM TOPOGRAPHY WILL BE STUDIED. THE R/V CHAIN WILL THEN MEASURE THE SOUND TRANSMITTED FROM THE SOURCE AS IT IS RECEIVED AT VARIOUS DISTANCES COMPARING THE RECEIPT OF THE SOUND WITH THE SALINITY, TEMPERATURE, DEPTH OF WATER AND

BOTTOM TOPOGRAPHY IN ORDER TO DETERMINE THEIR EFFECT ON THE SOUND SIGNAL.

3. EXPLOSIVE DEVICES WILL NOT BE USED DURING THE SURVEY AND NOTHING WILL BE DONE WHICH WOULD DISTURB THE CONTINENTAL SHELF OF THE BAHAMAS. A SOUND SOURCE WILL BE TEMPORARILY PLACED ON THE BOTTOM APPROXIMATELY 10 MILES EAST OF ELEUTHRA AT COORDINATES 25 DEGREES 17'N/76 DEGREES 17W. SURVEYS WILL BE CONDUCTED IN A WESTERLY DIRECTION FROM THAT SOURCE. KISSINGER

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